Bifurcation of Trivandrum Bound Rajdhani Express

6287. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to bifurcate the present Rajdhani Express of Nizamuddin-Trivandrum into two if so, by when;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) how many hours the present train takes to cover Nizamuddin-Trivandrum as per its present time schedule;

(d) by when the separate Rajdhani between Nizamuddin-Trivandrum would be introduced and what would be its expected time to cover the distance; and

(e) whether Govrnment would consider the proposal to run this train via Alleppy and also to extend it upto Cape Comorin in view of the tourist traffic?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Operational and resource constraints.

(c) 44 hours 55 minutes in one direction and 44 hours 30 minutes in the other.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

(e) Does not arise.

Additional Coaches in Kerala and Mangla Express Trains

6288. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how much rush is there presently during summer holidays in the South bound trains like Kerala Express and Mangla Express;

(b) whether any review has been undertaken by Government to help the passengers who are unable to get confirmed bookings in both of these trains; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any additional coaches have been attached to these trains; if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any special train has been announced to help the harrased passengers; and

(e) if the answers to parts (c) and (d) above be in the negative what steps are being taken to help the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) There are some passengers on the waiting list in 2626 Kerala Express and 2618 Mangla Express.

(b) Constant watch is kept on the demand for additional accommodation on various trains route-wise and wherever feasibe and justified, additional coach is provided.

(c) Not so far during May, 1995.

(d) One special train from Nizamuddin on 13.5.95 has been run for Madras and Bangalore, so far.

(e) Does not arise.

Steps to Curb Blackmarketing of Railway Tickets

6289. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3779 given in Rajya Sabha on the 26 April, 1995 and state:

(a) whether warning circular has since been issued to rail reservation staff in Delhi; if so, the details thereof;

(b) who are designated officials to be contacted in case of touts blackmailing and also reservation employees' collusion with racketeers;

(c) whether it is a fact that one supervisiory system of queue management was introduced in Delhi and supervised; if so, how many black-marketeers, touts and unauthorised

agents were identified and arrest by vigilance and the other Railways officials during this period; and

(d) whether any official has been designed as overall in charge of the new system; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) There are standing instructions to the staff in this regard.

(b) Chief Reservation Supervisors of reservation offices and Station Manager/ Station Superintendents of the concerned stations may be contacted in case anti-social activities of touts are noticed. In addition, Assistant Commercial Manager (Reservation), IRCA reservation office, New Delhi can also be contacted during office hours.

Any complaint in this connection can also be sent to the Chief Vigilance Officer of the railways concerned at the headquarters of the Zonal Railways or to the Vigilance Directorate. Ministry of Railways (Railways Board). New Delhi. The names, designations and telephone numbers of concerned officers are available in the Trains at a Glance (for Railway Board Officers) and in Zonal Railway Time Tables (for Zonal Railway Officers).

(c) Queue Managment system has been introduced on Return Journey counters at IRCA, Reservation Complex, New Delhi. No tour has been apprehended since the introduction of this system.

(d) Assistant Commercial Manager (Reservation) in IRCA Reservation office is the overall incharge of the new system. Under this system queues on Return journey counters of Passengers Reservation System are monitored by the guides posted for this purpose. Whenever the queue is found long, tokens are giver by them to the passengers and their reservation requisitions are collected for giving to the counter clerks. The passengers then wait for their turn comfortably.

Adoption of IAWHO System in IRWO

6290. MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Railways Welfare Organisation (IRWO), a construction organisation for Housing for Railways Staff set up on the pattern of Indian Army Welfare Housing Organisation (IAWHO), is manned by all the retired persons only;

(b) whether there is any problem in adopting IAWHO system in the IRWO;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether there is a resentment among the IRWO allottees; and

(e) if so, the measures suggested in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) NO. Sir. Only the majority of senior positions are manned by retired railway personnel.

(b) and (c) Since the system being followed on the IRWO has been working effectively and satisfactorily, it is not considered necessary to adopt any other system followed by similar Organisations.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, occasional complaints, as and when received, are examined on merit and action, as appropriate, taken.

Expansion of Railway production units and workshops

6291. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to expand some railways production units and workshops;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to expand the rail-coach repairing workshop at Mancheswar in Orissa;

(c) if so, the plans drawn up thereon for the 8th Five Year Plan; and